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### Kessler, Ellen

 From:
 rozfarm98@acegroup.cc

 Sent:
 Friday, July 24, 2009 2:51 PM

 To:
 Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC

 Subject:
 Dairyland Power Apolication. CapX2020

Dear Ms. Strength:

I am writing to express concerns about the proposed Application by Dairyland Power for the  ${\tt CapX2020\ project.}$ 

I did attend several of the meetings held by USDA in the La Crosse area and had the opportunity to speak with you. My concerns are broader than many that I heard in attendance. Many of the rural constituents seemed concerned about the placement of the lines. While those concerns are definitely legitimate, the broader concern at this time should perhaps be about the lack of facts and need, and the timing of the proposed CapX2020 project in light of alternatives in energy production today.

Having read the letter Minnesota Senator Ropes sent to you, I fully agree with what she has said.

I would add my own emphasis to that.

## I-216-001

- $^{*}$  The claims made by the power companies are not up-to-date, therefore, USDA/RUS should conduct a new EIS.
- \* The proposed lines will carry coal-powered energy, with its environmental consequences, rather than green energy centrally developed and used through smart grid technology, as embraced by the current administration.

### I-216-002

\* The National Wildlife Refuge and its inhabitants will be irrevocably damaged.

#### I-216-003

 $^{\ast}$   $\,$  Getting lines through to La Crosse will prove to be much more expensive, damaging, and difficult due to the terrain.

## I-216-004

\* As a taxpayer in both Minnesota and Wisconsin, I do not want my tax dollars or others tax dollars to finance the CapX2020 project including the La Crosse portion.

Thank you for your consideration of the concerns and the facts presented by so many people in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Rozovics P.O. BOX 246 La Crescent, MN 55947

## I-216-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

# I-216-003

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

## I-216-004

Your comment has been noted. Dairyland Power Cooperative, one of the CapX2020 utilities, has requested financial assistance from USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS), for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kilovolt transmission line project. RUS has determined that its funding of Dairyland's ownership interest is a federal action and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS is the lead agency for both NEPA and Section 106 review.